

1300 Eye Street N.W.  
Washington, DC 20005  
Telephone: 202.659.0100  
Facsimile: 202.659.0105  
www.novakdruce.com

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<b>To:</b>	U.S. Patent and Trademark Office	<b>From:</b>	James Remenick
<b>Fax:</b>	571-273-8300	<b>Pages:</b>	4 (w/fax cover)
<b>Art Unit:</b>	3641	<b>Date:</b>	November 8, 2006

◆ **Comments:**

Applicant: Philip M. SANTISI  
Application No.: 10/815,407  
Filing Date: July 9, 2003  
Title: FASTENING DEVICE

Atty Docket No.: 8106.002.US

**Attached:**

1. Certificate of Transmission Under 37 CFR 1.8 (1 pg)
2. Response to Notice of Incomplete Reply to Restriction (2 pg)

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PATENT  
Attorney Docket No.: 8106.002.US

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Application of:

Philip M. SANTISI

Group Art Unit: 3641

Application Number: 10/615,407

Examiner: James Brittain

Filing Date: July 9, 2003

Title: FASTENING DEVICE

**CERTIFICATE OF TRANSMISSION UNDER 37 CFR 1.8**

Commissioner for Patents  
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the United States Patent and Trademark Office on November 8, 2006.

  
Nadine E. Johnson

**List of Transmitted Documents:**

1. Response to Notice of Incomplete Reply to Restriction (2 pgs)

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PATENT  
Attorney Docket No. 8106.002 US

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Inventors	Phillip M. Santisi	)	
Appl. No.	10/615,407	)	Group Art Unit: 3641
Filing Date:	July 9, 2003	)	Examiner: James Brittain
Title:	FASTENING DEVICE	)	

Commissioner for Patents  
United States Patent and Trademark Office  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Sir:

**RESPONSE TO NOTICE OF INCOMPLETE REPLY TO RESTRICTION**

Applicant received a Notice of Incomplete Reply from the United States Patent and Trademark Office, mail dated October 12, 2006, regarding the above-captioned patent application (the "Notice"). This Notice asserts that Applicant's Response, filed and dated August 12, 2004, was incomplete. Specifically, the Examiner states that "To satisfy this Notice, applicant is required to identify whether claims 39-41 read on elected Species I. See 37 CFR 1.111."

Applicant respectfully disagrees and again asserts that the entire restriction is unwarranted. There is no increased searching burden placed on the Examiner at least because all groups and all species are within the same or closely related classes and subclasses.

Nevertheless, the Examiner restricted Applicant to various groups of claims and also various species. Two of those species were asserted to be "as described in claims 39-41." Because "claims are never species" (M.P.E.P. 806.04(e)), the species restriction is improper.

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Appa. No. 10/615,407

Attorney Docket No.: 8106.002.US

In an effort to assist the Examiner, Applicant respectfully notes that claims 39-41 are dependent from claim 1. According to the Examiner's analysis, claim 1 reads on Species I and, therefore, claims 39-41 can also read on Species I.

**Conclusion**

The application is in condition for examination and the prompt issuance of an Office Action or a Notice of allowance on the merits is respectfully requested. If there are any fees due with the filing of this Response, including any fees for an extension of time, applicant respectfully requests that extension and also requests that any and all fees due be charged to Deposit Account No. 14-1437 referencing Attorney Docket No. 8106.002.US.

Respectfully submitted,  
NOVAK DRUCE & QUIGG LLP

Date: November 8, 2006

By: 

James Kamenick  
Registration No. 36,902

Customer No. 28694

Novak Druce & Quigg LLP  
400 East Tower  
1300 Eye Street, NW  
Washington, DC 20005  
(202) 659-0100 (telephone)  
(202) 659-0105 (facsimile)